

Resurrection Parish

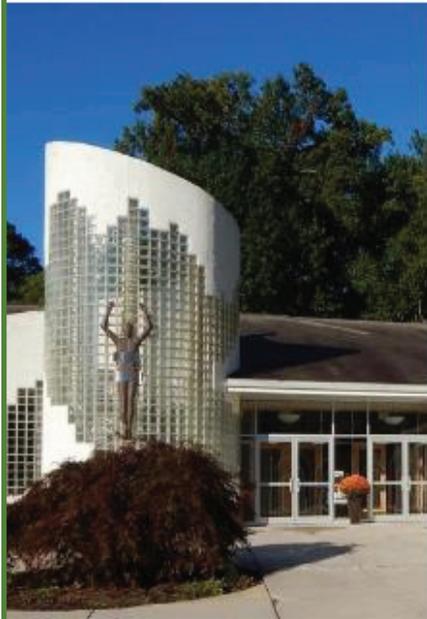
December 23, 2018

A Catholic Christian Community

Fourth Sunday of Advent

3000 Videre Drive
Wilmington DE 19808
302-368-0146
www.resurrectionde.org

Mass Times
Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 and 10:30 a.m.
Mon. Wed. Fri. 8:30 a.m.
Tues. 7 p.m.



Rev. William Graney, Pastor
Rev. Gregory Corrigan, Assoc. Pastor
John Falkowski, Deacon
Fran Huhn, Retired Deacon
Ruth Sanders, Liturgy/Music
Nancy Maloney, Christian Formation
Elaine Little, Youth Ministry
Sandy Landoll, Social Concerns
Tina Donald, Bookkeeper
Debbie Seymour, Admin. Asst.
Parish Office: 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Mon. - Fri.
6:00-8:30 p.m. Mon. - Thurs.

Pastoral Council

Al Mercatante	Executive Officer
Sharon Gidumal	Asst. Executive
Mike Mitchell	Secretary
Maritza Poza-Grise	Trustee
Dick Schwer	Trustee

ext. 102
ext. 115
ext. 110

ext. 106
ext. 104
ext. 107
ext. 103
ext. 105
ext. 0

Reconciliation
Tues. 6:30 p.m. Sat. 4:45 p.m.
or by appointment.
Baptisms
Please contact Deacon John.
Marriage
Contact clergy one year prior.
Pastoral Care of the Sick
For hospital and home visits
contact clergy or the office.
Becoming Catholic
Learn more by contacting
Fr. Bill or Deacon John.

Spirituality Outreach Stewardship

“Advent is not about a sentimental waiting for the Baby Jesus. Advent is a time to focus our expectations and anticipation on “the adult Christ, the Cosmic Christ,” who challenges us to empty ourselves, to lose ourselves, to surrender.” Richard Rohr, ofm

Christmas is on the horizon, and today’s scriptures may be lost amidst all the busyness: the parties, the Christmas pageants, the many festivities which are often scheduled before Christmas.

Is there hope on the horizon? There is a burning desire for hope, especially among those who are oppressed, grieving, or living in uncertainty as they look toward the future.

Are we a people of hope? Are we “light” in the darkness of a defensive and divided culture? God’s coming is an image of hope. Are we vessels of such awesome and necessary grace?

The days are growing shorter. Do we trust that Christ is coming? Can we dream of a new era for humankind? These are the hopes of Advent and Christmas: that something is being born that will mobilize our hopes and hands to change the world that God loves completely.

May it be so!

Peace,
Fr. Greg



INTENTIONS

Monday	Dec. 24	4:00 pm	+John & Mary Gregory
	Dec. 24	11:00pm	Parish Community
Tuesday	Dec. 25	10:00 am	+Ken Pfeiffer
Wednesday	Dec. 26	8:30 am	
Friday	Dec. 28	8:30 am	
Saturday	Dec. 29	5:30pm	
Sunday	Dec. 30	8:15 am	+Raymond Spieler
		10:30am	Parish Community



God is the source of all healing and hope, to whom we lift up in prayer the needs of the sick and those who care for them. *Lord, allow your healing hand to assist* Richard McCracken, Eva Skripchuk, Linda Scarola, Burt

& Carol Strasser, Rachel Rose Boucher, JD Howell, Jack & Jane Tabaka, Bill Dorsey, Joseph Hemphill, Alyssa Stover, Chet Andruskiewicz, Jim Gambort, Helen Meys, Candi Smith, Sean McCormick, Janice Kane, Ralph Culver, Kevin Rzucidlo, Mike Pohlen, Cass Thomas, Courtney Corridori, Patty Calhoun, Laurel Milano, Katie Fink, Beth Bell, Julie Edmiston, Pete DeAscanis, Carol Strasser, Judy Burns, and others mentioned in our parish book of intentions.

LITURGY

Pope Francis’ Prayer Intention-December 2018 Evangelization – In the Service of the Transmission of Faith: That people who are involved in the service and transmission of faith may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

HOLY DAY MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE – Monday 12/24

4:00 pm and 11:00 pm

(Carols 20 minutes before these Masses)

CHRISTMAS MORNING – Tuesday 12/25

10:00 am

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD – Tuesday 1/1

10:00 am

ENVIRONMENT PREP for CHRISTMAS

Sunday **December 23**, 11:30 am

We’ll change banners, put up and decorate trees, add chairs, and generally make Resurrection ready to welcome Christ in all our guests and parishioners! We’ll work beginning at 11:30 am (after the 10:30 am Mass) on both dates. **Thank you** for any and all help you can offer.



MUSIC for Christmas Eve:

Teens and adults interested in joining the Resurrection Parish **Music Ministry** are most heartily welcomed! All newly interested and currently serving singers are invited to

join the choir for our 11:00 pm

Christmas Eve Mass. Rehearsal is

Sunday December 23, 6:00-8:00 pm.

We’d love to have music ready for you, so if you plan to join in, please contact Ruth Sanders, 302-368-0146 Ext. 106, rsanders@resurrectionde.org.

PARISH LIFE



Christmas Brunch
Jan. 6 after the
8:15 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.

Prayer for Christian Unity

On Thursday, January 17, 2019 at 7pm, at Simpson United Methodist church, all are invited to attend a service of prayer for Christian Unity with special attention to the students and teachers of our local school districts. Because these children and teenagers are our future, we urge everyone to take part.



Save the Date!
Annual Winter Arts
Festival
Saturday
January 26, 2019

Contact Elaine at elittle@resurrectionde.org if you have an item or service you would like to donate to our silent auction. Thank you in Advance.

ELEMENTARY CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Our K to 5 Elementary Program

will meet on 1/6/19, 1/13/19, and 1/27/19 from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.
Drop off begins at 9:10am. See you there!



See our website or gathering space for a full calendar and other registration forms.

Would you like more information?

Contact Nancy Maloney, CFP Coordinator, at nmaloney@resurrectionde.org, 368-0146 ext. 104.

Sacramental Prep

Saturday, January 5th, 9am **First Reconciliation**

Epiphany Party

Sunday, January 6th (after the 10:30am Mass)

www.resurrectionde.org

0310

Pass On the Good News!

What good news? - The Good News of Jesus and our Catholic Faith! Help our children of the parish grow in their faith by coming a substitute catechist or assistant for CFP (K-5th Grade)! With classes offered Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15am. We provide you with training, materials, and support. For more information contact: Nancy Maloney (302) 368-0146 ext. 104 or nmaloney@resurrectionde.org.

CFP: YOUTH MINISTRY



Middle and High School **Youth Group**

January 6, 2019 6:30-8:15- Middle school and high school youth group. Sign-in in the gathering space and

gather in the youth room.

High school students bring a wrapped gender-neutral gift priced at \$5 or less for our annual Epiphany Party!

College students are welcome to join the high school students. Bring a wrapped gender-neutral gift priced at \$5 or less.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

The response to the giving tree was, as always, extremely generous. Wow! Thank you each for your giving spirit. Thank you also to Cathy Blanchet and Betsi Gerber, for organizing the Christmas gift collection for those in need.

Dec. 30th 5:30PM. St. Andrew's Place: Prepare and share a meal with some very interesting people. Sign up on the website. Please consider giving some of your blessings (time.)

Jan. 12th Emmanuel Dining Room (9AM-1PM) Join parishioners preparing a serving a lunch for the needy. Sign up on the parish website under "Volunteer" tab or ion the Serve binder in the Gathering Space.

<http://www.writeaprisoner.com/> We have an active prison ministry team, and as such, we receive regular requests for pen-pals. You do not have to get a pal from this site, but if you poke around a little, you can see how you might positively affect the life of an inmate, just be being a friend. Poke around and pray a little.

VOCATIONS

In today's first reading, the Lord promises to send One "who will shepherd his flock." God has kept that promise throughout the centuries and continues to call shepherds for His people. Is He calling you to serve as a shepherd – to minister to His people as a priest? Call or write Fr. Norm Carroll, Diocesan Director of Priestly and Religious Vocations (302-573-3113; vocations@cdow.org). And check out our website: www.cdow.org/vocations!

Taking it Home

Thomas Groom says this about our Catholic sense of time. "We live more humanly if we recognize ourselves as "dwelling in time" instead of as spectators who watch time flow by. It is more life-giving to think of time holistically, to embrace and engage time present, inheriting within it the legacy of time past and making our own unique contribution to time future." As Catholics we have a sense that time is not simply a series of one-after-another events without any sense of connection or meaning between past, present and future activities. We believe that we are who we are by virtue of our past time, which helps us to understand the present time and eventually propels us into a future time, which holds a promise made possible by the past. This is our understanding because we hold that God's saving activity exists eternally throughout time – so we can say that Jesus' life, death and resurrection continue as a permanent event throughout history. This is holistic time or better yet "kairos" time; time appointed by God for the fulfillment of all things.

But why talk about time? We talk about time because our entire Advent journey has been a journey in time. It has been a journey of past and future history, impacting how we see, understand and live our present situation. The past history is that of a people who waited in hope for God's promise of salvation. The future is our waiting in hope for that promise to come to completion in Christ. But in the gospel this weekend, both this past and future hope collide. Through the gospel testimony of Elizabeth, the past and future reason for our present Advent hope meets: "blessed is she who trusted that the Lord's promise would be fulfilled." What a grand "Kairos" moment!

Unconditional trust and faithfulness, this is what finally makes God's promise a reality. Mary surrenders herself in ultimate trust to God so that God could fulfill the promise. Mary heard the word in her ears, pondered its deeper meaning in her heart, and embodied it in action, conceiving the Word in her womb and giving it birth; for to hear is to lead to discovery, then discovery

to responding and responding to action. And for this reason Mary stands not only as our greatest Advent figure, but also the greatest figure of our present time. She is the very embodiment of the truth that to recognize the presence of God, we must admit God into our very life now, to give ourselves over body and soul.

Edna McDonagh observes that, "without our consent and acceptance God cannot be fully present in God's own creation. The awesome request to the peasant girl in Nazareth is repeated to us as God seeks to become enfleshed in our lives. We are God's point of entry into the richness of creation."

It is in this way that we too are called to give birth to Jesus each and every day of our lives. So if God is to be found today we need to do what Mary did; we need to hear God's word spoken to us, ponder that word in our hearts and then embody that word in our lives. This is giving birth to Jesus. We need to surrender in trust and faithfulness to God's promised fulfillment, that "kairos" moment in each of our lives. When we do this as Mary did, then we become God's justice and God's compassion, and mercy and love can be realized as we live it out in our lives now. We can become co-creators with God, a God who is both immanent and transcendent love that inspires us to create anew.

Mary's song, which we pray as part of our perennial evening prayer can then become our song as well: "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my Spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has regarded the low estate of God's handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed; for God who is mighty has done great things for me, and Holy is God's name."

Deacon John

Creative Mentors needed at Newark High School: *As a Creative Mentor you can make a difference in the lives of our students. Mentoring involves listening, sharing, and the greatest gift: your time. Spend an hour per week with a student, all it takes is the desire to help a student become all he or she can be. Connecting Generations Creative Mentoring program will train you. For more information, visit www.connecting-generations.org, call 302-656-2122, or you can reach out to Patti Tobin, the Mentor Coordinator at Newark High School via email at patti.tobin@christina.k12.de.us.*



HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom. After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances, but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions, and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety."

And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"

But they did not understand what he said to them. He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

Gospel Reflection: We live in an era when we are constantly hearing about the demise of the family and the demise of family values. It seems that the family is under constant attack. Divorce rates are at an all-time high and a huge number of young people are raised in single-parent families, divided families, or blended families. To talk about a "typical" family is increasingly irrelevant. What we are learning to appreciate more and more is the diversity of family experience. Despite all this, there is no disputing the value of the family unit. Family is at the heart of our society; at the heart of our development; and at the heart of our Church. When we stop and think about it, the Holy Family that we honor today wasn't exactly what we might describe as a "typical" family and yet they provide a model for all families.

In today's gospel, we get a snapshot of family life for Jesus, Mary, and Joseph at a time when Jesus was 12 years old. We're reminded that the family was a faithful Jewish family, attending the Passover celebrations in Jerusalem every year. We're also reminded that it is at the Passover celebrations some 20 or so years later that Jesus will be tried and crucified. When Mary chastises the boy Jesus, he reminds her that he needs to be busy with his Father's affairs. Mary and Joseph are confused by this, perhaps forgetting momentarily that Jesus is referring to his heavenly Father. This incident, so often dismissed as background "color" to the gospel narrative, conveys the significant truth that Jesus shared a family relationship with Mary and Joseph, but also shared a family relationship with God, his Father. It reminds us that Jesus called all of us to enter into the relationship he shared with his Father.

Jesus the Jew: This gospel passage reminds us of the fact that Jesus and his family were faithful Jews throughout their lives. Although in his public ministry Jesus challenged some of the practices and attitudes of the institutional religion, he nevertheless remained faithful throughout his life. In this incident, we see the practice of traveling to the Temple in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover and we also see the very Jewish method of teaching and exploring Torah through question and answer. Some people oddly struggle with the notion of Jesus as a Jew and yet the gospels repeatedly demonstrate how he was faithful to the tradition.

Mary: We're told in this gospel passage that Mary "stored up all these things in her heart." Mary is a model of the reflective life. When extraordinary, life-altering events occur to her, she is portrayed as pondering these events in her heart. She responds to these events by allowing them to speak to her and speak to her heart rather than simply "reacting" as so many of us do. The ability to reflect on events, rather than react to them, can lead to a much better considered response and less chance of making the same mistakes over and over again.

Importance of family: It is in the everyday living of family life that we have the opportunity to demonstrate how serious we are. As we establish our individual identity, we will at times clash with our family's expectations and challenge the authority of parents. However, we can never forget the love, care, and security our family has provided throughout our lives. Parents try to protect their children from disappointment and harm and reflect the love of God when they're repeatedly prepared to try again with damaged family relationships.

Q. What might Mary and Joseph have felt when Jesus was missing and when they found him again?

Q. Why do you think this is the only incident from Jesus' childhood reported in the four gospels?

Q. Why is it that families can be both the most frustrating and fulfilling parts of our life?

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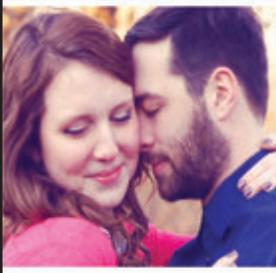
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